PS 8-4 US-USSR

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 349

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17
ACTION NEA 15

INFO NSA 02,EUR 15,AF 09,CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,
NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,USIA 12,ACDA 16,IO 13,RSR 01,
/136 W

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Jabrum DATE 8/1/83
RDS☐or XDS☐EX DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☑
DECLASSIFIED☑ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

P 191100Z AUG 68
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4485

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 4975

LIBERTY CLAIMS

REF: STATE 223183

1. ELIZUR (US AFFAIRS) CALLED DCM SUNDAY MORNING TO SAY THAT UPI REPORTS (ATTRIBUTED IN PRESS HERE TO STATE DEPT OFFICIALS' BACKGROUNDER) HAD QUOTE RAISED EYEBROWS UNQUOTE IN THE FONMIN ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF OUR COMMENT (STATE 219537, PARA A. 1.) THAT WE HAD NOT MADE EITHER FACT OF RECEIPT OF ISRAELI NOTE OF AUGUST 5 OR ITS CONTENTS KNOWN TO PUBLIC OR TO CONGRESS.

2. ON RECEIPT REFTEL DCM INFORMED ELIZUR OF WHAT DEPT'S RESPONSE WOULD BE IF ASKED ABOUT STORY.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT OUR NEGOTIATING POSTURE ON LIBERTY CLAIMS MUST BE STRONG IN ORDER ACHIEVE MAXIMUM SATISFACTION OF USG CLAIMS. IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT HOWEVER THAT THE FINAL SETTLEMENT OF THE LIBERTY CLAIMS CONTRIBUTE TO POSITIVE US-ISRAELI RELATIONS, NOT DETRACT FROM THEM. THE KIND OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION AROUSED HERE BY THIS PRESS REPORT (WHICH WE WILL REPORT IN SEPTEL) IS UNHELPFUL IN ACHIEVING EITHER OBJECTIVE.

GP-3. BARBOUR

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